

Remarks

The claims are 1-11.

The above amendment is responsive to points set forth in the Official Action.

In this regard, new claims 10 and 11 are based on original claims 1 and 2, amended per the Examiner's suggestion. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Norisue et al. (US 6,730,371). Claims 10 and 11 which have been amended per the Examiner's helpful suggestion in Official Action paragraph 3.

This rejection is respectfully traversed in view of the fact that the '371 patent and the present application are commonly assigned to Mitsubishi Gas Chemical Company Inc.

Further, this rejection is clearly inapplicable to new claims 10 and 11 which have been amended per the Examiner's helpful suggestion in Official Action paragraph 3.

No further issues remaining, allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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